

Contributions.

AUTUMN.

The pretty robe that Autumn wears
 Along the laughing rill,
 The pretty robe that Autumn wears
 Upon the sombre hill,
 Will be a picture sweet to see,
 As long as there is memory.
 How bright the dew is on the thorn!
 How red the leaves beneath!
 How rosy is the coming morn
 Upon the blushing heath!
 How like a scene upon the sky,
 Are yonder clouds, now floating by!
 How soft the noon—and afternoon,
 Of each and every day,
 When children crave the simple boon
 Of walking o'er the way,
 "Or down the glen, or by the church,
 Until they reach the fiery birch."
 The grass is brown beneath the tree,
 And brown around the bush;
 No more is heard the Summer bee,
 Or Summer singing thrush;
 Yet all the vale is green or gold,
 Or scarlet touched, or crimson stole.
 I stand anear the river's flood,
 The villiage lies behind,—
 Behind the wood, with leaf and bud,
 As still as if 't were blind,
 Or waited for some gentle breeze,
 To stir, anon, its topmost trees.
 The water tinkles at my feet,
 It rises to a swell,
 It passes even swift and fleet—
 I hear the evening bell,
 As o'er the wood there comes its chime,
 A full and tender, mellow rhyme.
 I turn now back unto those years
 That did so gently glide;
 I turn now back unto those years,
 That with their silver tide,
 Did pass in song, in love, in praise,
 And think them like these Autumn days.
 O, yes! I love thee, Autumn brown!
 And when the wind is free.
 I think I hear thy trailing gown
 In every forest tree!
 And painting, painting gold and green,
 Thou paint'st, indeed, the sweetest scene.
 —*Reformed Quarterly Review, October, 1894.*

MODERATOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, PENN. STATE CONFERENCE.

Beloved Brethren. Through a well directed train of God's kind Providence we are permitted to meet with the church in Green County in this the Seventh Annual Convention of the Brethren Churches of Pennsylvania. We are here to take counsel together and transact such business and devise liberally as shall be for the highest and best interests of our beloved Brotherhood into which we have been called by Christ Jesus the great head of the church. It becomes us to seek the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit in all our deliberations, decisions, and plans.

Let us seek in earnest prayer and sincere consecration that guidance. May the Spirit guide us and keep us from all error and lead us into all truth through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the light of our opportunities we may ask ourselves the questions, Have we been faithful to our trust? Have we done what we could? Have we been abounding in the work of the Lord? I fear many of us would be dissatisfied if we were permitted to look into God's great register and see just what we have done and so much that we failed to do.

Our work in the state by the blessings of God has moved forward, many souls have been converted, missions started, incumbrances removed, obligations met and discharged and not withstanding the great financial depression which has hung like a pall over our fair land, and retarded the progress of improvement and advancement in the commercial world, our work for the Master has prospered and a healthful condition prevades the entire field. Death, the Great Reaper, has gathered a number of bright and shining lights from our membership. Among them we note Elder Solomon Benshoff who departed this life March 31, 1894, aged 82 years and 26 days; truly one of the vedettes on the advance guard has been called in. I deem it appropriate in this connection to mention the death of our lamented brother Peter A. Cobaugh, who died Nov. 8th, 1893, aged 37 years, 3mo. and 19 days; though not in our ministerial ranks, yet like an Aaron and Hur he stayed up the pastor's hands, he was widely known in the Brotherhood and being for many years in this convention, trustee of Ashland University. Time and space forbid special mention of Bro. Mosher, Yoder, Seibert and Sister Parsons, Croner, Griffith and others. They all died in faith."

Many changes have occurred among pastors during the year. Eld. J. F. Koonts from New Enterprise charge to Conemaugh charge, Eld. J. H. Knepper from Johnstown pastorate to the Berlin charge, Eld. W. L. Spanogle from 1st church of Pittsburgh to Altoona and McKees charge, Eld. D. J. Bole has taken charge of 1st church of Pittsburgh, Eld. J. G. Snider on

account of failing health resigned the Jones Mills charge and Eld. W. A. Harman is in charge there. Among those who were with us at last convention and have accepted calls to other fields are Eld. J. C. Mackey and Eld. Joshua Long, both to Maryland. We regret the loss of these excellent co-laborers, but our loss has been "My Maryland's" gain and we be brethren still.

By action of our late National Conference our highly esteemed sec., A. D. Gnagy has been called from the Meyersdale pastorate and from our convention territory to Ashland, Ohio, as Editor in Chief of the publishing interests of the church. While we very much regret the loss of his loving presence, wise council and ever ready and helpful co-operation, our benediction goes with him to his new sphere of higher and still greater usefulness to our beloved Brotherhood at large.

In our aquisitions we welcome amongst us Eld. E. H. Smith of Maryland as pastor of New Enterprise charge, and Eld. E. E. Haskins of Ohio to the Johnstown pastorate. The only vacancy existing in the bounds of our Convention is the Meyersdale charge which we hope and expect will soon be supplied. I am glad to report that peace and harmony as well as uniformity in doctrine and practice reign throughout our borders, and that we are in excellent condition if we will all do our part, to make vigorous advancement in the coming year along all the lines of our work. I am sorry as a Pennsylvanian that the action of our late National Conference has taken from our state the office of our National Book and Tract Committee. But in consolidating our publishing interests our state loss has become a National gain, and it now behooves us to stand by and support this important church interest with greater liberality and more fervent zeal than ever before. I hereby take the opportunity to urge upon all pastors and all Sunday school officers to use all due effort and influence to have every family subscribe for and read the EVANGELIST, and introduce and use our own lesson helps, papers, etc., in our Sunday schools, and give liberal and regular donations to our tract work. These my brethren